

BERNALILLO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
SHERIFF MANUEL GONZALES III



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Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office Evictions

The Bernalillo County Sheriff's Office is committed to helping all New Mexicans during this trying time. We are committed to responding in the best way possible to the developing COVID-19 (coronavirus) situation. As a result, one of the things Sheriff Manuel Gonzales III has done, was he reached out to the Chief District Court Judge and asked for a temporary stay on court ordered evictions in Bernalillo County.

"During this health and economic crisis it's critical we ensure the stability of housing for our children, families, and seniors," said Sheriff Gonzales. "With our economy grinding to halt and thousands of New Mexicans losing their jobs, we cannot force families out of their homes."

On March 24th, 2020 the New Mexico Supreme Court ordered a stay on the execution of writs of restitution (evictions), that property owners can obtain which they then give to law enforcement to force the removal of a tenant from the residence for non payment. Tenants will need to provide the court with evidence of their current inability to pay their rent for this order to be upheld.

"New Mexicans are struggling financially as workplaces close because of the public health emergency," said Chief Justice Judith K. Nakamura. "The Court's order will provide temporary relief for families and individuals facing the possibly of losing their housing at a time when the governor and public health officials have ordered New Mexicans to remain at home to prevent the spread of COVID-19."

This Court order is the latest restriction and precautionary measure imposed on operations of State Courts to help protect public safety and safeguard the health of all New Mexicans. Other measures provide New Mexicans additional time to pay fines and fees, require the use of audio and video teleconferencing for court proceedings that need to continue, and allow self-represented litigants to submit case filings to local courts by email and fax. All of these measures are an attempt to help the public avoid courthouse visits.

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